



OFFICE OF REP. JOE MORELLE | NY-25

**2021
COMMUNITY PROJECT
FUNDING GUIDANCE**

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COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING PROCESS

Overview:

As part of the 2022 Congressional Appropriations process, Congress will be making available funding opportunities for community-supported projects in the 25th Congressional District.

The Community Project Funding program will offer local entities a new opportunity to work directly with their member of Congress to bring awareness to local priorities that are deserving of federal funding and partnership.

This program has been designed to utilize the best parts of the past “earmark” process by directly connecting Congressional action with outputs in the community, but with stronger guardrails to ensure accountability, transparency, and strong community support.

This is a unique and exciting opportunity for our community to identify and advance priorities worthy of funding consideration.

Each Appropriations Subcommittee will have specific guidelines and requirements (further detailed in this guide) to evaluate and determine if a request is eligible for Community Project Funding. More generally, Subcommittees will consider requests with the following in mind:

- **Eligibility:**
 - Local Governments and Public Authorities
 - K-12 School Districts
 - Higher Education Institutions
 - Non-Profit 501(c)(3)
 - **The Appropriations Committee is imposing a ban on directing Community Project Funding to for-profit entities.*
- **Matching requirements:**

Several Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests. Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements for such a project to be viable.
- **One-year funding:**

Each project request must be for fiscal year 2022 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.



- **State or Local Governmental Entities as Grantees:**
Our office is encouraged to consider public entities as primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project.
 - For infrastructure projects, many States have established lists or intended use plans with projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials (e.g. drinking water, wastewater, and highways).
- **Non-Profits as Grantees:**
Non-profit organizations requesting funding must provide evidence that it is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Further, many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, projects may also be directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function
- **Community Support:**
Community engagement and support are crucial in determining which projects are worthy of Federal funding. Only projects with demonstrated community support will be considered.

This recommendation builds on past Committee reforms, and applicants will be required to present to our office evidence of strong community support. Examples of these include, but are not limited to:

- Letters of support from elected community leaders;
- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested Community Project Funding;
- Support from newspaper editorial boards;
- Projects listed on State intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents; or
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

Enhanced Transparency and Accountability

This program has been designed to utilize the best parts of the past “earmark” process by directly connecting Congressional action with outputs in the community, but with stronger guardrails to ensure enhanced accountability and transparency.

- **Financial Disclosure Statement:**
Pursuant to House rule XXIII, clause 17, for each Community Project Funding request, Members of Congress are required to send the Chair and Ranking Member a letter stating that the Member does not have a financial interest in the proposed project.



The Committee is expanding the requirement for the first time to certify that no one in their immediate family has a financial interest either. The Committee will not consider a requested project without this certification, and the template is included on the Committee's website. This is a separate letter from any programmatic or language-based requests.

A summary of the elements required in the disclosure statement is below:

- Any Member requesting funding for a community project is required to provide a written statement to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Appropriations that includes the requesting Member's name, the name and address of the intended recipient of the "Congressional earmark" (or, if there is no intended recipient, the intended location of the activity), the purpose, and a certification that the requesting Member does not have a financial interest in the project. An additional Committee requirement is to certify that no immediate family member has a financial interest.

This letter must accompany the submission in the Committee's electronic database system, and the Committee will post it online if the request is funded in FY 2022 Appropriations Bill. Programmatic and language-based requests do not require a disclosure letter. All Community Project Funding requests and any language requests that name a specific recipient of Federal funds will require a disclosure letter.

- **Requirement to Post All Requests Online:**

For transparency, Members are required to post Community Project Funding requests on their house.gov websites at the time the request is made to the Committee. The information posted must include:

- the proposed recipient,
- the address of the recipient,
- the amount of the request,
- and an explanation of the request, including purpose, and a justification for why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds.

Members will be asked to provide a link to the webpage containing this information when they enter the request into the Members' Request database system. The Committee will use that link in its "one-stop" online database.

Additional Information

- Application Deadline: **6:00 PM on March 31, 2021**
- Application forms: <https://www.morelle.house.gov/CommunityProjectFunding>
- Send completed applications to: MorelleCommunityProjectFunding@mail.house.gov



Qualifying Community Funding Project Requests

Only certain accounts qualify for an earmark. The following provides information about which accounts allow for earmarks.

AGRICULTURE

The Subcommittee on Agriculture will accept Community Project Funding requests in the following accounts listed below:

Department of Agriculture

- **Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities**

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Many of these laboratories/facilities are decades old, have outlived their functional lifespan, and are badly in need of major repairs, renovation, or replacement. Facility requests **must** be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research.

- **Community Facilities Grants**

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Essential community facilities include, but are not limited to, healthcare facilities, public facilities, public safety measures, educational services, or other community support services. Examples of eligible projects include medical or dental clinics, town halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, public works vehicles, or distance learning equipment. Any project **must** serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53, and the Member's request must demonstrate community support.

Such requests are also subject to the maximum grant assistance limitations specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Community Facilities grants generally cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.



- **ReConnect Program**

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grants funds can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream.

The area **must** be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area that is not located within: (1) A city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants; or (2) an urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants. Sufficient access to broadband is defined as greater than 90% of any rural area in which households have fixed, terrestrial broadband service delivering at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will **not** be considered in determining sufficient access to broadband.

Stand-alone middle-mile projects are **not** eligible under the ReConnect Program. However, middle-mile facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area.

It is strongly recommended that Community Project Funding requests include specific information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered would be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities would be served.



COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND SCIENCE

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies will accept community project funding requests in the following accounts listed below.

Department of Justice

- **State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance - Byrne Justice Assistance Grants**

Byrne JAG Grants assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts to prevent crime, improve the criminal justice system, provide victims' services, and other related activities. Community projects funded under this category **must** comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with Justice Department guidance for the program. Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding Byrne-JAG:

<https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>

<https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf>

The Committee encourages community project funding designed to help improve police-community relations. Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account.

- **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) – Technology and Equipment**
Funding will be provided for community project grants for State, local, and tribal law enforcement to develop and acquire effective technologies and interoperable communications that assist in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime, provided that such equipment meets the applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES).

This funding will allow recipients the opportunity to establish and enhance any of a variety of technical equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of community policing efforts within their jurisdictions. These projects should help improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve.

Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Recipients of community project funding under this account **may not** subgrant to other organizations or agencies.



Department of Commerce

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Operations, Research, and Facilities**

Community project funding for NOAA will **only** be considered within the Operations, Research, and Facilities account. This account does not fund construction projects, and as such, any such requests will not be considered. Funding requests will be considered for research, demonstration, or education projects performed by external partners or for prioritizing NOAA internal funds for geographically specific projects. Any such project must be aligned with NOAA's mission and within their existing authorities.

The subcommittee will **not** entertain requests for community project funding for the National Weather Service or the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

Coastal Zone Management funds are distributed to states on a formula basis and will **not** be considered for community project funding.

Historically, the Committee has **not** funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

- **NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services**

Funding **must** be for activities consistent with and supportive of the work of NASA's mission directorates and within the agency's authorities, such as STEM education activities and scientific research. Funding for building construction or renovation projects will **not** be considered for community project funding



DEFENSE

The Subcommittee on Defense will accept Community Project Funding requests for only the following accounts: Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Defense-Wide.

Please contact the office of Rep. Morelle at MorelleCommunityProjectFunding@mail.house.gov to discuss funding requests within these accounts.



ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee on Energy and Water will only consider Community Project Funding requests in the following accounts listed below:

- **Army Corps of Engineers (investigations, construction, Mississippi River & Tributaries, and Operations & Maintenance)**
- **Bureau of Reclamation (Water and Related Resources)**

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY22. In the event that the Subcommittee cannot fully fund your request, the Subcommittee may reach out to the Corps and Reclamation regarding useful increments of funding.

In addition, please note the following:

- The Subcommittee may provide funding for a very limited number of new start projects, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. While requests for new starts in these accounts will be accepted, please consider this limitation when making requests.
- The Subcommittee may provide funding for a limited number of Environmental Infrastructure projects, if any, in the Construction account. While requests for specific projects will be accepted, please consider this limitation when making requests. For these projects, please provide the requested information in the appropriate place in the “Supplemental Questions” tab of the database.
- The Subcommittee may include a very limited number of Continuing Authorities Program projects, if any, in the Construction account. While requests for specific projects will be accepted, please consider this limitation when making requests. For these projects, please provide the requested information in the appropriate place in the “Supplemental Questions” tab of the database.

Projects authorized under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–322) **will not be accepted.**



- **Directions for Submitting Corps and Reclamation Community Project Funding Requests**

As noted previously, failure to follow these instructions may result in your request not being considered for inclusion. Community Project Funding requests will **only** be accepted for the accounts listed above. Only authorized projects will be considered for funding.

Please note that it is of the utmost importance to provide the official project name **and** the correct project authorization information. If inaccurate information is provided, the Subcommittee may not be able to properly evaluate your request.

To assist you in identifying and providing the Subcommittee with the official project name and project authorization, a list of authorized projects in a searchable PDF format can be found [here](#). **You can only do projects that are on these lists.** Please locate your authorized Corps or Reclamation project and use the official project name as it appears in the list. Once you locate the name of your project, you also need to provide to the Subcommittee the Public Law and section of the law that authorizes your project and enter it into the database in the appropriate place. (example: P.L. 110–114, Section 1401).

If you are not able to find your authorized Corps project in the authorized project list, or if you have difficulty finding the authorization information, contact your local Corps District office to obtain this information. If you are not able to find your authorized Reclamation project in the authorized project list, or if you have difficulty finding the authorization information, contact your local Reclamation Region office to obtain this information. If your project is not on these lists but is authorized, please speak to your local Corps District office or your Reclamation Region office to obtain this information.

Once you have gathered the above initial information, proceed to the “Add a New Submission” page in the online database. For “Request Type”, select “Project”. You will see additional tabs appear next to “Request” below “Add new submission to Energy and Water”; click through and fill out the answer to each question in each tab. Unless otherwise instructed below, failure to respond to each question in each tab may result in requests not being considered for inclusion.



FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government only accept community project funding requests in the following account:

Small Business Administration

- **Small Business Incentives**

Under this option, Members may submit funding requests for Community Projects in support of **small businesses, such as entrepreneur training, workforce development, counseling, research, and construction or acquisition of facilities**. Project recipients must be other units of government or nonprofit organizations to be considered eligible.



HOMELAND SECURITY

The Subcommittee on Homeland Security will accept Community Project Funding requests for only the following Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Assistance accounts: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants; Nonprofit Security Grants; Emergency Operations Center Grants.

Department of Homeland Security

- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects**

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program will be considered for funding, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state **must** submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. **Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency** affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

- **Nonprofit Security Grant Program Projects**

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity and the Preparedness Grants Manual for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) will be considered for funding. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the SAA will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, **all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SAA** affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

- **Emergency Operations Center Grant Program**

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable, will be considered for funding. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, **all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SSA** affirming that it believes the project is eligible



INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT

The Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies will only consider Community Project Funding requests in the following accounts listed below.

Department of the Interior

- **Land Acquisition Through the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Federal acquisition of lands and water and interests therein **must** be for the purpose of land and habitat conservation and the encouragement of outdoor recreation, as established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965. Land acquisition project requests funded from the LWCF should be requested through the agency that would manage the land being acquired. The four land management agencies are: within the Department of the Interior, (1) the Bureau of Land Management, (2) the Fish and Wildlife Service, (3) the National Park Service; and within the Department of Agriculture, (4) the Forest Service.

Third-party organizations (i.e. The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, etc.) frequently participate in the federal acquisition process by coordinating the negotiation and purchase of tracts. If the project you are requesting involves a third-party organization, please be mindful that funding for a land acquisition project goes to the agency that will manage the land.

The Great American Outdoors Act of (Public Law 116-152) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) mandates that the president submit, along with the upcoming fiscal year's budget request, proposed, and supplemental project lists. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that appear in either of these lists. When submitting your request, please indicate whether the project is on these lists.

Environmental Protection Agency

- **State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)**

The vast majority of requests made to the Interior Subcommittee are for STAG infrastructure grants. These grants fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes the construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly-owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. **Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.** The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan.



There is a minimum 20% cost-share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. **Ability to fund the 20% cost share is required before EPA can award a STAG grant.** Please note that **only** the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a SRF can be applied towards a project's matching requirement.

STAG projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Committee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements. The following table lists some of the project types that are ineligible for STAG grant funding:

Projects that generally **are not** eligible for STAG Grants include:

Clean Water/Wastewater

1. Land: except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11
2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
3. Non-Municipal point source Control.
4. Acid Rain Drainage Correction.
5. Ambient Water quality monitoring.
6. Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.
7. Privately Owned Sewer Pipes.

Drinking-Water

1. Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
3. Water Rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
4. Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
5. Laboratory Fees for Monitoring.
6. Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7. Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
8. Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
9. Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.



Projects that generally **are** eligible for STAG Grants:

Clean Water/Wastewater

1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities - new, upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.
2. Collector Sewers - Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.
3. Interceptor Sewers - Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.
4. Sewer Pipes - Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.
5. Outfall Sewer - A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).
6. Stormwater Management - Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e. storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).
7. Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control - Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and stormwater and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.
8. Infiltration/Inflow Correction - Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.
9. Water Security - These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring, and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.
10. Septic Tanks - Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.
11. Land - The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.
12. Water Reuse - Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).
13. Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects – e.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.



Drinking-Water

1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS).
2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation, and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
5. Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe, or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6. Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7. Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8. Project planning, design, and other related costs.

U.S. Forest Service

- **State and Private Forestry**

The Forest Service is an agency within the Department of Agriculture. Requests that do not fit into the described categories below are unlikely to be eligible for funding under the Forest Service.

The State and Private Forestry account provides technical and financial assistance, usually through the network of State Foresters, to improve the management, protection, and utilization of the Nation's forests. Community projects are usually limited and include various specific urban and community forestry projects and specific forest disease or pest treatment areas. Community Project Funding requests may also include specific State fire assistance projects or specific forestry assistance projects in this account. Inclusion of projects listed on any federal or state ordinal list, or that are demonstrated to meet the goals of a State Forest Act Plan, are encouraged.



LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION

The Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies will accept project requests in the following accounts detailed below.

Please note, the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee previously received requests for community project funding to construct or renovate buildings. Health facilities are the **only** types of construction projects normally eligible for community project funding in the Labor-HHS-Education bill.

Department of Labor: Employment and Training Administration

- **The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Demonstration Program**
Community project funding is designated under Training and Employment Services.

These projects **must** meet all statutorily mandated requirements, except that they are exempt from the requirement to compete. In addition, all projects must:

1. Include direct services to individuals to enhance employment opportunities.
2. Demonstrate evidence of a linkage with the State or local workforce investment system.
3. Include an evaluation component.

Equipment purchases may be included within community project funding only as an incidental part of the entire project. A similar standard applies to curriculum development, which should be incidental to the project's emphasis on direct services to individuals.

Community project funding **cannot** be used for the construction or renovation of facilities

Department of Health and Human Services: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The Subcommittee has historically provided community project funding only in the categories listed below. Requests that do not fit into one of these categories are unlikely to be eligible for community project funding under HRSA.

- **Health Facilities Construction and Equipment**
Grants to help with the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment for facilities for the provision of health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health



centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.

In addition to construction and renovation, grants can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment or x-ray machines. Equipment-only grants—that is, grants not involving construction—are permissible (and commonly done). Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution’s pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.

HRSA Health Facilities grants **cannot** be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings or to pay salaries or other operating costs. They cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. Grants can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project but cannot be used for general feasibility studies.

- **Health Professions Education and Workforce Development**
Grants for projects to improve education and training of health care professionals, or to analyze health workforce trends and needs.
- **Rural Health Outreach**
Grants for projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services, health promotion and education, chronic disease management, and improvements to emergency medical services. Grant funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA’s definition of rural. For lists of eligible areas and further information regarding that definition, see: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/index.html>
- **Rural Health Research**
Grants to support research on rural health problems and ways of improving health care in rural areas.
- **Telehealth and Health Information Technology**
Funding for telemedicine, distance learning, or use of information technology to improve health care.



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Community project funding within SAMHSA should be submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account. Community project funding **must** fall under one of the following categories:

- **Mental Health**
Grants to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
- **Substance Abuse Treatment**
Grants to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high-quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
- **Substance Abuse Prevention**
Grants to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.

Department of Education: Elementary and Secondary Education

- **Elementary and Secondary Education - Innovation and Improvement**
Community project funding for elementary and secondary education should be submitted through the Innovation and Improvement account. Elementary and secondary education community project funding includes instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education community project funding should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.

Community project funding to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels is also eligible under elementary and secondary education. Community project funding may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible grantees are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, community project funding intended for individual schools is provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.

Community project funding **cannot** be used for the construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also **not eligible**.



- **Postsecondary Education - Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)**

Community project funding can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of higher education projects. Generally, community project funding should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. Community project funding cannot be used for the construction or renovation of academic buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades.

Examples of the types of projects that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology and telecommunications, acquire science laboratory equipment, provide student support, implement university partnerships with school districts, and establish research and training centers.

Grantees are usually colleges and universities but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.

- **Limitations on Education-Related Community Project Funding:** Except where specifically authorized, community project funding cannot be used for construction (or the acquisition of property) or renovation of buildings. In addition, grantees may not restrict participants based on race, ethnicity, or gender. Finally, recipients of community project funding may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.



MILITARY CONSTRUCTION & VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies will only accept community project funding requests in the following accounts:

Department of Defense

- **Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Active Components**

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$6,000,000. The types of projects under this heading include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)

- **Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Reserve Components**

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$6,000,000. Some Reserve Component projects require a State funding match. It must be determined whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State match funding before the request can be considered. The types of projects under this heading include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the accounts listed below:

- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve

- **Planning and Design**

The types of projects under this heading include improving facility resilience, study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force



- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)
 - Army National Guard
 - Air National Guard
 - Army Reserve
 - Air Force Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
- **Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)**
FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support Department of Defense (DOD) operations over a five-year span. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President's budget request. The updated document listing projects eligible for FY 2022 will be obtainable after the FY 2022 full budget rollout, through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: <https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials>
 - **Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs)**
UFRs/UPLs are lists that each Service provides to Congress that identify priority projects which were not included in the President's budget request. These lists must be approved by the Secretary of Defense. UFRs/UPLs become available to Congress on the date of the President's full budget request release, which is different from the release of a top-line budget request or 'skinny budget'.
 - **Cost-to-Completes (CTCs)**
CTCs are projects that have previously received an appropriation but require additional funding for completion. These lists represent the requirements identified by each Service for the additional funding necessary to complete a project. The lists are approved by each Service Secretary.



TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies will only accept community project funding requests in the following accounts listed below:

Department of Transportation

- **Local Transportation Priorities**

Local Transportation Priorities are highway and transit capital projects eligible under title 23 and title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

All projects must be:

- Capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a capital project
- Supported by the state or local government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
- Administered by public entities.

The Subcommittee **will not fund** activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses and activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

- **Airport Improvement Program (AIP)**

AIP community project requests may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and mitigating environmental concerns.

All projects **must** be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with sections 47101 to 47175 of title 49, United States Code, and FAA policy and guidance
- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials
- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor

For each AIP community project request, Members will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process. The database will include the following questions to assist the Subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects. Several of them will require additional information from your office.



Department of Housing and Urban Development

- **Economic Development Initiative (EDI)**

EDI community project requests may be used for economic and community development activities, including land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation of housing or facilities, construction and capital improvements of public facilities (including water and sewer facilities), and public services. Requests may also include planning and other activities consistent with the underlying authorization for the Community Development Block Grant program within HUD. EDI community project requests are **not** eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for activities already undertaken (including debt service or debt retirement).

All projects **must** be:

- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by governmental or non-profit entities, including public housing agencies, as well as tribes and tribally designated housing entities.

For each EDI community project request, Members will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process. The electronic online database will include the following questions to assist the Subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects. Several of them will require additional information from your office.



